

Serial No.: 10/026,819
Atty. Docket No.: P67397US0

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 9, 2007, has been carefully reviewed and by this Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 2, 5, 6, 8-15, 17-20, 24, 25, 30, 31, 35-40, 42-59, 61, 65, 66 and 73. Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 16, 21-23, 26-29, 32-34, 41, 60, 62-64, 67-72 and 80-83 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 60 and 82 are independent.

The Examiner objected to the drawings as containing lines, numbers and letters that are not uniformly thick and well defined. With this Amendment, Applicants have submitted eleven replacement sheets in which the quality of the lines has been improved. Entry thereof is requested. If further improvements in the drawings are needed, Applicants will submit a further set of replacement drawings prior to payment of the issue fee.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 16-20, 29, 33, 34, 60, 69, 71 and 72 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,041,085 to Osborne et al. ("Osborne"). Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the Examiner rejected claims 21-23, 26, 27, 41, 62-64, 67 and 68 as being unpatentable over Osborne in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,004,305 to Hursman et al., and rejected claims 32 and 70 as being unpatentable over Osborne in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,167,646 to Swafford.

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The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 16, 21-23, 26, 27, 29, 32-34, 41, 60, 62-64, 67, 68, 70-72 and 80-83 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of co-pending patent application, Serial No. 10/482,229.

Applicants filed an appropriate terminal disclaimer in connection with Serial No. 10/482,229 on February 27, 2007. As this terminal disclaimer apparently crossed in the mail with the present Final Action, Applicants contacted the Examiner by telephone on March 27, 2007. The Examiner indicated that Applicants, in filing a response to the Final Action, should make reference to the already filed terminal disclaimer. Accordingly, Applicants request that the provisional double patenting rejection be withdrawn in view of the foregoing terminal disclaimer which, Applicants note from their review in public PAIR, has been approved.

The foregoing amendments to the application are formal in nature and therefore proper after Final Action. Entry thereof is requested.

With the foregoing amendments and remarks, the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is cordially invited

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to telephone the undersigned attorney so that the present
application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE DRAWINGS:

Applicants have provided herewith eleven replacement drawing sheets setting forth all of the figures. Entry thereof is requested.